



Occasional Care Newsletter – June, 2020

Dear families,

What a crazy term 2 for everybody. I would like to start off by welcoming new families to Occasional care, we can't wait to get to know you all. Also thank you to all families for being patient with me while I found my feet in my new position here at Adelaide Miethke Occasional Care and also during the COVID-19 pandemic over the last couple of months. With some normality starting to happen I can't wait to get back into the swing of things and support your children's learning.

We have had lots of children beginning with stay and play sessions where a parent stays for a short time. This gives our staff an opportunity to get to know your child and for us to talk about your child's routines, interests and needs. As I am new to this position my primary focus over the past few weeks has been developing relationships with the children and their families and re-visiting the space and routines to see if they need re-adjusting to best suit the needs of the children. We have also been continuing the program and the focus has been on transport. As you can see by our room we have been doing lots of Art work and activities involving all different kinds of Transport.

I would also like to introduce Orsola. She has been doing some relief work with us over the past week and will be continuing through into next term supporting me in Occasional care Monday-Thursday. She is very enthusiastic and can't wait to join the team.

Next week is week 10 our final week of Term 2. The term has certainly flown by and has been a very different term than we'd anticipated due to Covid-19. While there have been changes and challenges we have had a wonderful term of learning and the children have been resilient and grown in their independence. The Department for Education has announced that we are able to welcome parents back on to school and preschool sites from next week with a few considerations.

For us this means:

- ❖ Parents should walk their children into occasional care and **MUST** sign them in.
- ❖ Parents must continue to physical distance, including at pick up and drop off times so we ask that you do not gather under the verandah or in Occasional care for long periods.
- ❖ Parents should come into occasional care to collect their child and **MUST** sign them out.
- ❖ Families are asked to collect their child and move off site as quickly as possible.
- ❖ Siblings are not able to play in the yard at drop off or pick up.
- ❖ It's important that children stay home if they are unwell.

I am excited to see what Term 3 brings! What new friends will we make? Where will our program take us? Where will the children take the Program? What new fun things we will learn?

We encourage you to email us if there is anything extra you'd like to let us know but haven't found the opportunity to as yet. Please email:

Jo.Mills835@schools.sa.edu.au

Jo - Occasional Care Co-Ordinator

Occasional Care

Direct Phone Number

8445 6936

Holidays

6/7/20 - 17/7/20

Occasional care re-commences on
20/7/20

Occasional Care Educator Profiles

Jo Mills



Advanced Diploma in Children's services

ECW Occasional Care and Preschool Support

My name is Jo Mills. I have my Advanced Diploma in Children's services and have 16 years of experience working with children in the child care sector. Over the years I have worked in only 3 centres and worked in positions as support, Team Leader, Assistant Director and Director. Over the years I am continuously learning new things from my fellow educators, families and the children in my care. I believe that all children have the right to learn their own way and I am here to guide and support while teaching them by using their interests and working together with families.

I have 2 young children myself and I understand that the early years are so important and precious. I am very creative and I like to encourage children to get involved in art and sensory experiences. I look forward to working with families and staff to ensure every little person attending has a wonderful year full of learning, development and fun!

Orsola



Certificate 3 in children's services

ECW Occasional Care

Hello my name is Orsola. I have my Cert 3 in children's services. I enjoy working with children, watching them grow, developing new skills through play and everyday things.

I have 2 young children of my own and we love being outdoors. We also enjoy quiet time reading, drawing, watching tv and spending time with friends and family.

I look forward to getting to know you all and supporting your children with their learning journey.

New procedures

DO YOUR PART TO STOP
THE SPREAD OF GERMS



**WASH
YOUR
HANDS!**

1. Please wash your child's hands when you enter Occasional Care.
2. We understand it is sometimes hard to say goodbye, but please limit your time in the room.
3. At the end of the sessions bags will now be left at the gate between the Kindy and Occasional Care.

Immunizations

It is now a requirement that we need to have the updated **MEDICARE** immunizations records, not the one from the Blue Book. You can find these on your Medicare app or you can contact Medicare for them. Can you please ensure that you have these sent through to my email or bring in a copy by next term. If you need any help please let me know.

Contact details

If any of your details (including email) have changed please let us know and remember to keep your emergency contacts details up to date throughout the year.

Spare Clothes

While we do have spare clothes at kindy it is helpful if you can pack a change of clothes in your child's bag so that if they are wet or soiled we can change them into their own clothes.

Nappies

Please pack nappies and wipes for your child into their bag as these are not supplied by the centre.

Sickness and attendance

Regular attendance is very important to ensure children build friendships and learn, however children who are sick should be kept home. This includes children who have vomited or had diarrhoea within the last 24 hours or have a high temperature. See policy for more information. Please phone us if your child will be absent for any reason

Drinks and Snacks

Please bring a labelled water bottle and piece of fruit, vegetable or other healthy food for snack time and bottles for babies & toddlers if needed.

Media Forms

Please return your media forms as soon as possible. Suzanne sent out and email with an attachment a few weeks ago and I handed hard copies out. If you need another form please come and see me as we need them by next term.

Please **DO NOT** send food containing nuts



This includes muesli bars and nut-butter products



Occasional Care Fees

Invoices will be sent home during the next few weeks for next term. We ask that payment is made by August 14th where possible.

Our preferred method of payment is via **DIRECT DEBIT**. The banking details can be found on your invoice. Please write your "child's name and OC" in the details of your payment. If you need more time to make payment please speak to Jo and we will be able to negotiate part-payments.



Paint the Westside REaD Preschools in our Partnership are part of the Paint the Westside REaD project. Each month we promote a literacy message from our mascot Lizzie the Literacy Lizard. This will be a core element of our literacy program in both the Occasional Care and kindergarten. If you are looking for books to read at home we have a book-swap box in our room that you are welcome to borrow from at any time.



Every Child is a *different* kind of flower and all

together, make this world a *Beautiful* garden.

